(b) The present status of the proposals received from the State Government is as under:—

(i) A sum of Rs. 635.00 lakh has been approved and the 1st instalment of Rs. 317.50 lakh has already been released for creation of infrastructure and irrigation facilities for the land development and for educational programmes for development of Scheduled Tribes.

(ii) The proposal is under process for release of funds under the scheme for development of Primitive Tribal Groups.

(iii) As regards release of funds for construction of Ashram Schools and Hostels for pre-matriculation boys and girls, State Government's clarification on the proposal for construction of hostels for boys/girls is awaited. The proposal of Ashram School has been processed and is under finalization for release.

(iv) The proposal has been approved and grant has also been released for establishment of book banks.

Data regarding poverty ratio

2635. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government do not have any data about the poverty ratio in minor States and the numbers given out are mere extrapolation of poverty ratio in the adjacent major States;

(b) whether there has been any survey about poverty in North-Eastern States;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the specific measures that are underaken to prevent starvation deaths and reduce poverty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) It has been intimated by the Planning Commission that it estimates poverty ratio on the basis of the methodology outlined in the Report of Expert Group on "Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor"

(Lakdawala Committee). For the estimation of poverty incidence, the data collected by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) in its large sample surveys on household consumer expenditure conducted once in approximately 5 years are used. These surveys are conducted in all the States including all Minor States. In so far as poverty estimates of Minor States are concerned, the Expert Group recommended that "for the States/ Union Territories namely, Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, Pondicherry and Chandigarh, there are certain constraints imposed by the non-availability of adequate data. In certain areas the relevant price data is not available and in some, the sample size of the household consumption expenditure survey is not adequate or it is not available in a series for all the years under consideration. In assigning the poverty line and poverty ratios of these States/UTs, the two considerations that have guided are physical contiguity of areas and similarity of economic profile as indicated by other economic parameters". Accordingly, the estimates of poverty of these States/UTs are derived in the following way:—

1. Poverty Ratio of Assam is used for Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura.
2. Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Goa is used to estimate poverty ratio of Goa.
3. Poverty Line of Himachal Pradesh and expenditure distribution of Jammu & Kashmir is used to estimate poverty ratio of Jammu & Kashmir.
4. Poverty Ratio of Tamil Nadu is used for Pondicherry and A&N Islands.
5. Urban Poverty Ratio of Punjab is used for both rural and urban poverty of Chandigarh.
6. Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Dadra & Nagar Haveli is used to estimate poverty ratio of Dadra & Nagar Haveli.
7. Poverty Ratio of Goa is used for Daman & Diu.
8. Poverty Ratio of Kerala is used for Lakshadweep.

(d) The Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation has been implementing through the State Governments/UTs, a Centrally Sponsored Urban Poverty Alleviation Programme named Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) on all India basis inlcuding Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat, with effect from 01.12.1997 with a view to providing gainful employment to the urban unemployed or underemployed poor through (i) encouraging the setting up of self-employment ventures by those who have read upto 9th standard and (ii) provision of wage employment by utilising their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets. The scheme is funded in the ratio of 75:25 between the Centre and the States.

DDA's Penalty Relief Scheme-2001

2636. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the response of the DDA Penalty Relief Scheme-2001 has been very poor, so far;

(b) if so, the number of defaulting allottees who have availed of the scheme; and

(c) whether Government propose to reduce the penalty to nominal rate of interest or waive it completely for allottees who have already paid their total instalments and to give incentive to the defaulters to clear their pending instalments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) In response to DDA's Penalty Relief Scheme, 2001, 5464 applications have been received from the defaulting allottees till 10.12.2002.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

Ambedkar Valmiki Malin Basti Awas Yojana

2637. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister
of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite the year 2001 -2002 being observed as the year of implementation of the Ambedkar Valmiki Malin Basti Awas Yojana, which